

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claims 1-12 (Canceled).

Claim 13 (New): A camera-recorder apparatus comprising:
an image capture device operable to capture a plurality of video images;
a storage medium by which said video images are stored for later retrieval;
a feature extraction unit operable to derive image feature vector data from said image content of at least one of said video images substantially in real time at said capture of said video images, said image feature vector data being associated with respective images;
a metadata extraction unit operable to derive image property data from said image feature vector data substantially in real time at said capture of said video images, said image property data being associated with said respective images or groups of images and including sub shot segmentation data; and
a data path by which said camera-recorder apparatus is operable to transfer said derived image property data to an external data processing apparatus.

Claim 14 (New): The apparatus according to claim 13, in which said image feature vector data includes at least distribution data and/or face recognition data.

Claim 15 (New): The apparatus according to claim 14, in which said metadata extraction unit is operable to derive said sub shot segmentation data from said color distribution data.

Claim 16 (New): A camera-recorder apparatus comprising:

an image capture device operable to capture a plurality of video images;

a storage medium by which said video images are stored for later retrieval;

a feature extraction unit operable to derive image feature vector data from image content of at least one of said video images substantially in real time at said capture of said video images, said image feature vector data being associated with respective images;

a metadata extraction unit operable to derive image property data from said image feature vector data substantially in real time at said capture of said video images, said image property data being associated with said respective images or groups of images, said image property data including activity measure data indicative of a change of said image content or said audio content between said video images; and

a data path by which said camera-recorder apparatus is operable to transfer said derived image property data to an external data processing apparatus.

Claim 17 (New): The apparatus according to claim 16, in which said image feature vector data includes at least color distribution data and/or face recognition data.

Claim 18 (New): The apparatus according to claim 17, in which said metadata extraction unit is operable to derive said activity measure data from said color distribution data.

Claim 19 (New): A camera-recorder apparatus comprising:

an image capture device operable to capture a plurality of video images;

a storage medium by which said video images are stored for later retrieval;
a feature extraction unit operable to derive image feature vector data from said image content of at least one of said video images substantially in real time at said capture of said video images, said image feature vector data being associated with respective images;
a metadata extraction unit operable to derive image property data from said image feature vector data substantially in real time at said capture of said video images, said image property data being associated with said respective images or groups of images, said image property data includes representative image data indicative of a predominant overall content of said video images; and
a data path by which said camera-recorder apparatus is operable to transfer said derived image property data to an external data processing apparatus.

Claim 20 (New): The apparatus according to claim 19, in which said image vector data includes at least color distribution data and/or face recognition data.

Claim 21 (New): The apparatus according to claim 20, in which said metadata extraction unit is operable to derive said representative image data from said color distribution data.

Claim 22 (New): A camera-recorder apparatus comprising:
an image capture device operable to capture a plurality of video images;
a storage medium by which said video images are stored for later retrieval;

a feature extraction unit operable to derive image feature vector data from said image content of at least one of said video images substantially in real time at said capture of said video images, said image feature vector data being associated with respective images;

a metadata extraction unit operable to derive image property data from said image feature vector data substantially in real time at said capture of said video images, said image property data being associated with said respective images or groups of images; and

a data path by which said camera-recorder apparatus is operable to transfer said derived image property data to an external data processing apparatus,

in which:

said camera-recorder apparatus is operable to capture an audio signal associated with said video images;

said feature extraction unit is operable to derive audio feature vector data for portions of said audio signal associated with at least one of said video images; and

said image property data includes interview detection data indicative of an interview sequence of said video images, said video images of said interview sequence including facial images and said audio signal that is associated with said video images of said interview sequence comprising speech.

Claim 23 (New): The apparatus according to claim 22, in which said image feature vector data includes at least color distribution data and/or face recognition data.

Claim 24 (New): The apparatus according to claim 22, in which said audio feature vector data comprises speech detection data.

Claim 25 (New): The apparatus according to claim 24, in which:
said audio feature vector data comprises speech detection data; and
said metadata extraction unit is operable to derive said interview detection data from
said face recognition data and said speech detection data.

Claim 26 (New): A camera-recorder apparatus comprising:
an image capture device operable to capture a plurality of video images;
a storage medium by which said video images are stored for later retrieval;
a feature extraction unit operable to derive image feature vector data from said image
content of at least one of said video images substantially in real time at said capture of said
video images, said image feature vector data being associated with respective images;
a metadata extraction unit operable to derive image property data from said image
feature vector data substantially in real time at said capture of said video images, said image
property data being associated with said respective images or groups of images; and
a data path by which said camera-recorder apparatus is operable to transfer said
derived image property data to an external data processing apparatus.

Claim 27 (New); The apparatus according to claim 26, in which:
said camera-recorder apparatus is operable to capture an audio signal associated with
said video images; and
said feature extraction unit is operable to derive audio feature vector data for portions
of said audio signal associated with at least one of said video images.

Claim 28 (New): The apparatus according to claim 26, in which said image property data comprises any or all of:

representative image data indicative of the predominant overall content of said video images;

activity measure data indicative of a change of said image content or said audio content between said video images; and

sub shot segmentation data.

Claim 29 (New): The apparatus according to claim 27, in which said image property data comprises interview detection data indicative of an interview sequence of said video images, said video images of said interview sequence comprising facial images and said audio signal that is associated with said video images of said interview sequence comprising speech.

Claim 30 (New): The apparatus according to claim 26, in which said image feature vector data includes at least color distribution data and/or face recognition data.

Claim 31 (New): The apparatus according to claim 27, in which said audio feature vector data comprises speech detection data.

Claim 32 (New): The apparatus according to claim 28, in which:
said image feature vector data comprises at least one class of data selected from:
color distribution data; and face recognition data; and

said metadata extraction unit is operable to derive said representative image data from said color distribution data.

Claim 33 (New): The apparatus according to claim 28, in which:
said image feature vector data comprises at least one class of data selected from:
color distribution data; and face recognition data; and
said metadata extraction unit is operable to derive said activity measure data from said color distribution data.

Claim 34 (New): The apparatus according to claim 28, in which:
said image property data comprises interview detection data indicative of an interview sequence of said video images, said video images of said interview sequence comprising facial images and said audio signal that is associated with said video images of said interview sequence comprising speech:
said image feature vector data includes at least color distribution data and/or face recognition data;
said audio feature vector data comprises speech detection data; and
said metadata extraction unit is operable to derive said interview detection data from said face recognition data and said speech detection data.

Claim 35 (New): The apparatus according to claim 28, in which
said image feature vector data includes at least color distribution data and/or face recognition data; and

said metadata extraction unit is operable to derive said sub shot segmentation data from said color distribution data.